

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 15-17, 19-24, 39, and 40 are pending.

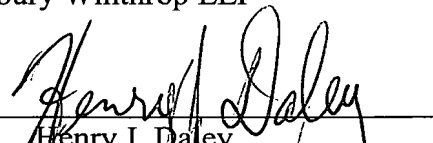
The Examiner rejected claims 15-17, 19-24 and 39-40 based on obviousness-type double-patenting over claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent No. 6,661,451 in view of Whipple et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,926,215). Applicants have filed a Terminal Disclaimer herewith to overcome this rejection. Since there are no other rejections, Applicants respectfully submit that this Application is now in condition for allowance.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 03-3975 under order No. 30968/245024. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP

By: _____


Henry J. Daley
Reg. No.: 42,459
Tel. No.: (202) 775-9832
Fax No.: (703) 905-2500

Dated: August 11, 2004
HJD:emg

Customer Number [00909]